



# **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH**

## **Coastal Management Program**

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**JOHN J. WILLIAMS  
BOROUGH MAYOR**

July 25, 2007

Mr. Jim Renkert, Project Review Coordinator  
Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Office of Project Management and Permitting  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 705  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Subject: Seward Small Boat Harbor Upgrade

Dear Mr. Renkert:

Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Plan (KPBCMP) staff received a project proposal for review submitted by the City of Seward to the Office of Project Management and Permitting seeking a coastal zone consistency determination for construction in the Seward Small Boat Harbor. The project is located within the City of Seward in the footprint of the current harbor. Based on our review of the project, we find the project Consistent with the borough's Coastal Management Program policies and offer the following comments.

### Scope of the Project

The proposed project is to construct a new boat travel lift facility and also to repair and upgrade existing docks at the Seward boat harbor. The project would be constructed in two phases or stages

**Phase/Stage One** would include construction of a pile-supported dock and a sheet pile bulkhead to support a new boat travel lift. The dock would be located on the east side of the proposed boat lift berth and would consist of a 4' x 60' pre-cast concrete box girder supported by 24" diameter, 1/2" thick galvanized steel pipe piles. On the west side of the proposed boat lift berth, a cast-in-place concrete grade beam would be fixed to the top of a sheet pile bulkhead. Additional sheet pile bulkhead would be installed on both sides of the travel lift to facilitate dredging and to allow larger vessels to access the area. A total of 280 linear feet of sheet pile bulkhead would be installed.

To provide vessel access to the facility, dredging to -12' MLLW would be necessary. To prevent liquefaction of soils at the base of the sheet pile wall during seismic events, existing soils would be dredged to a depth of -24' MLLW and replaced with structural fill to a finish elevation of -12' MLLW. Total volume dredged would be 9,660 cubic yards.

The area behind the sheet pile bulkhead would be backfilled with 9,675 cubic yards of clean gravel fill. This may include suitable clean gravel fill that is dredged during the project. Area filled below the high tide line (HTL) would be approximately 0.10 acre, of which 0.06 acre would be below mean high water (MHW).

Phase/Stage Two consists of installing an additional 224 linear feet of sheet pile wall and 11,325 cubic yards of backfill. It also would include an additional 340 cubic yards of dredging, using the same procedures as in Phase/Stage I. Area filled below the HTL would be 0.28 acre, of which 0.26 acres would be below MHW.

### Findings

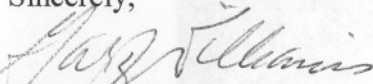
The improvements called out in the scope of the project are water dependent and therefore are appropriate in the Seward Small Boat Harbor. The dredging work will release some sediment into the open water but the applicant certifies that Best Management Practices will be utilized throughout the construction period. Dredged materials will be placed behind sheet pile walls or at a City owned facility. This activity is consistent with Kenai Peninsula Borough Coastal Management Program (KPBCZMP) policies 2.0, Coastal Development, KPBCZMP 2.5, Dredging and Filling, and KPBCZMP 2.4, Disposal of Dredged Material.

The applicant certifies that work will be coordinated with the City of Seward and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to minimize conflict with planned events and recreational activities in the area. Pile driving will be conducted outside of the "fish window" to minimize disturbance to migrating fish. This activity is consistent with KPBCZMP policy 2.6, Mitigation.

The siting of improvements will not have a direct and significant impact marine life in the vicinity of the project. This activity is consistent with KPBCZMP policies 2.6, Mitigation and KPBCZMP 2.7, Cumulative Impacts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,



Gary Williams

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Coastal District Coordinator